



PAN

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Prison Action News
PO Box 832
Watertown, MA 02472

Prison Action News is a newsletter collaboratively published by prisoner support groups for prisoners worldwide to report on their struggles and acts of resistance from behind bars. All submissions must be **RECEIVED** by **January 1st or July 1st** and be in compliance with the guidelines below. Please note that we retain the right as editors to alter submissions for grammatical and content-related issues. Prison Action News is one part of the multi-faceted Prison Abolition movement. We believe that the writing in Prison Action News is as important as poetry or political essays, but is often less represented.

History:

The idea for Prison Action News came out of the 2007 Anarchist Black Cross (ABC) Network gathering. We wanted to create a venue for prisoners to share updates of their activities, similar to the updates we wrote in the network newsletter. As people on the outside, we can facilitate this dialog of prison resistance, and help our comrades stay informed about the inspiring actions others are taking. We accept submissions from prisoners and prison groups worldwide, and bilingual writing. With your help this newsletter will be a success- if you know of resistance taking place that is not represented here, please send us a submission, and spread the word!

Please send ALL SUBMISSIONS, SUBSCRIPTION REQUESTS and ADDRESS CHANGES to:

Prison Action News PO Box 832 Watertown, MA 02472
prisonactionnews@riseup.net

Guidelines

1. An update must not exceed 500 words.
2. We will not accept submissions with racist, sexist, homophobic, or otherwise oppressive language.
3. An update may be a report on resistance activities of individual prisoners or prison groups (this can include, but is not limited to, radical book groups, hunger strike, general strike, letter writing campaigns, etc.).
4. A report should not be a political essay or a report on prison conditions, rather, the response and resistance to these conditions.
5. PAN accepts entries of artwork and illustrations.
6. One submission per group, per prison, per newsletter.
7. We will not report on gang activity.
8. We accept bilingual entries (when one language is English), as well as Spanish entries!
9. Entries may be submitted for publication by prison groups and organizations, or individuals, and may be submitted for publication with the name and contact information of the writer, or anonymously, to protect their identity.

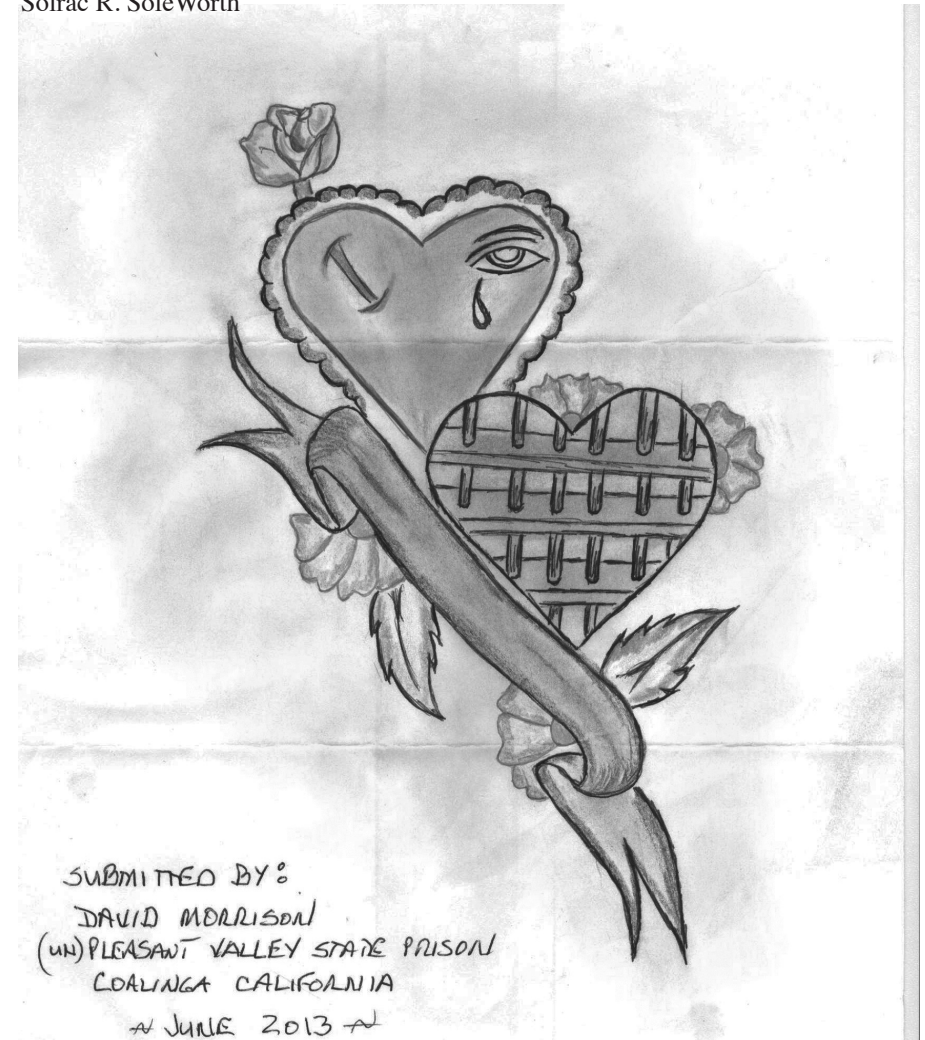
LAYOUT BY JAKE CARMAN

you ask? To begin, giving notice is essential. How does one do this? In Texas (for prisoners) it's known as an I-60. But a notice can take any form. A simple letter, but record has to be made (the 2nd witness) which is another thing the prisoner has no access to – the notary and the Copy Certification. But first things first. One thing at a time. How to give notice or what's required for proper notice is found in the Business & Commerce Code 1-202.

That's it for now. One step at a time but one must know that you're steppin'. Knowledgeful acts produce these steps.

Be well.

Solrac R. SoleWorth



SUBMITTED BY:
DAVID MORRISON
(UN)PLEASANT VALLEY STATE PRISON
CALIFORNIA
A JUNE 2013 A

“Submission (a ‘response’)” September 2013

Wow. Where to start? It really is so much clearer when one knows what to look for and/or how to look for it.

“What to look for” meaning that the WHOLE scandal of a Prison System is wholly corporate. One learning how to function in the corporate realm will effectuate a prisoner with some clout. But that’s just the catch...a prisoner who “can function in a corporate capacity.” The system has effectively BARRED the prisoner from doing such a thing. In Texas it’s known as Tx Govt. Code 552.028. To those who have tried to “function in their (alleged) society” have discovered in NO UNCERTAIN terms...YOU HAVE BEEN MADE AN OUTLAW! Yes, by your own society, the one you’re so eager to return to.

“How to look for it” meaning there is a lot of self-sacrifice needed to be done by the prisoner in order to “have shit done.” For one, the system knows that it has the upper hand, e.g. learning that “the system” is a corporation and thus governed by the General Rule of Corporations, right? Well, (in Texas) the system has removed from its law library holdings list all books that could even remotely teach you about this General Rule, e.g. Occupations Code, Local Gov. Code, Property Code, Insurance Code, Business & Commerce Code (especially). I mean, just think for a second, read one of their “policies.” In any “authority” and it will reference an ACA code. Now go ask to review such ACA code. The employees of the system (even the ACA assigned coordinator/supervisor) will tell you that you cannot review these codes. What about the insurance code? There are quarterly audits. So if that’s where their eyes are looking, well then learn to bring issues of complaint to their eyes/attention where their attention is focused...the MONEY/spending/funding/etc. Form your complaint so the eyes go looking on the spending.

A little more explanation: You have been sentenced to a term of X amount of time to discharge a debt to society for your alleged criminal act (side note: ever wonder why they call it a debt? Now read Tx. Cons’t Act. 1 ~ 18). Now if you desire to challenge any conditions of confinement you need to be fully informed of such conditions. This deals with “meeting of minds” under contract law which deals with corporations. This is why you need to know what the ACA says in its codes. Also, you need to know how the TDCJ property is to be maintained which is found in the local gov. codes. How the officers are to perform their duties (Occupations Code). But how coincidental, you no longer have access to these. A monster of info that’s denied to you is the Administrative Code. How much more would you need access to this; to know the function of the entity that binds you, which is an administration, governed by The Administrative Code (even parole) but no access is granted to this General Rule. Does anyone see the oppression? It’s known as plausible deniability and the practice of don’t ask don’t tell, but it is a misrepresentation. So, what can you do,

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*This issue is
dedicated to
Umoya Kwazulu
(Richard T. Ayers),
editor of Beto Unit
Writ Writer’s News-
letter & Kwazulu
Newsletter, and dear
friend and comrade
of Prison Action
News, who passed
away on September
8th, 2013.*

Disclaimer:

The content of the PAN newsletter is intended solely for information and education. Descriptions and claims appearing in PAN have not been independently verified and should be considered unsubstantiated. Moreover, PAN topics do not necessarily reflect the perspective of any individual involved in its content or production. Likewise, PAN topics do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of any recipient or of any individual or group mentioned in PAN. This newsletter in no way encourages or supports any illegal behavior. PAN only intends to provide a printed forum for conversation and news. We regret if any PAN entry or passage is misconstrued as a violation of state and/or federal regulations.

NEW PRISON GROUPS AND PROGRAMS

Dark Desyre Zine Network November 2013

We are a radical anarchist collective of GLBTQ individuals who also self-identify as Satanist, Lucifarian, Setian, Gothic Witch, Dark Pagan. We are heterodox and thus eclectic with various antimonion and left hand path strains. We are anti-racist, anti-fascist and severely opposed to these and all other forms of cultural intolerance. As a minority within a minority within a minority we know the human-primate craves social intercourse and seek, via a zine network, to buffer the pain of isolation, provide a forum for expression and free exchange of ideas, through aiding in both individual and collective augmentation and evaluation. We welcome all far left radicals who feel the dark aesthetic. Please direct submissions, inquiries, etc. to us at Michael Jacob Silvera, 22538-057, FCC Petersburg, PO Box 1000, Petersburg VA 23809 OR stamped envelope or loose stamp to: Michael S. c/o Dave S., 505 N F St., 829, Aberdeen WA 98520. Those seeking potential membership please submit a bio, philosophical/ideological essay(s), sexual interests/history, and (if available) non-nude photo(s). Also desperately in seek of free world help for internet presence and social network help. Thank you,

Infomerc AKA Comrade Mikhail AKA Michael Silvera, currently a detainee at a federal neo-plantation. Anarchy! Action! The revolution will be hacked – The BlackHat Illuminati

Coalinga, CA June 2013

Brothers and sisters in struggle,
I am in the early fledgling stages of gathering and structuring a campaign to address an atrocious and life-threatening infection commonly known as “Valley Fever” which is visited upon the general inmate population here at (un)Pleasant Valley State Prison in Coalinga, CA. This affliction is also affecting prisoners at nearby Avenal State Prison. It is an infection which is debilitating to your lungs, joints and central nervous system! The Prison Industrial Complex (PIC) minions are of course mysteriously immune from the effects of this deadly infection.

I would like to reach out for information, strategies or logistical support our readership may wish to extend our campaign. Prisoners and free folks alike! Please refer to my contact information below.

In solidarity,
David Morrison
E14728 B2-205Low
PO Box 8500
Coalinga, CA 93210

that deal with the “phase program.” The Menard rule book says that administrative detention is a non-disciplinary form of segregation from the general population that is reviewed every 90 days by the warden. However, the phase program is nine months. Therefore, no one is being considered for release until at least nine months after entering the system.

The 90-day review is supposed to be a review where release is considered. Instead, it is only a hearing where the prisoner is not present, and its only purpose is to determine if he should move from one phase to the next. To date, nobody has been released after the nine months. No notices are being given after any of these alleged hearings, and no basis for decision of continued placement is given either.

Prisoners say that their conditions of confinement are deplorable. According to prisoners, conditions in the High Security Unit include:

- severe isolation without any mental health evaluation or treatment;
- uncleanliness, rodent infestation and lack of any cleaning supplies to clean cells – no disinfectants, no toilet brushes;
- no written policies requiring the daily sweeping and mopping of the wings;
- lack of heat in the cells and only one small, thin blanket;
- showers are moldy and often cold;
- no hot water in the cells to wash up or clean eating utensils;
- unauthorized deviation from the statewide menu, low calorie intake has prisoners losing weight;
- not issued individual coats, have to share smelly coats with numerous men;
- access to their legal materials limited to approximately once a month, delays in receiving legal mail;
- no educational opportunities even though non-disciplinary prisoners should have the same access to education as the general population.

Many prisoners in the Menard High Security Unit are planning to turn in emergency grievances as well as begin a hunger strike on the morning of Jan. 15, 2014. They expect retaliation, possibly including beatings of inmates who are regarded as troublemakers.

The information in this article was provided by attorneys Alice and Staughton Lynd, based on a number of letters from prisoners at Menard Correctional Center in Illinois. As volunteer attorneys for the American Civil Liberties Union of Ohio, the Lynds were two of the lawyers representing prisoners at the Ohio State Penitentiary in a class action that established due process rights for prisoners in supermaximum security confinement: *Austin v. Wilkinson*, 189 F.2d 719 (N.D. Ohio 2002), affirmed in substantial part by the U.S. Supreme Court, *Wilkinson v. Austin*, 545 U.S. 209 (2005). The Lynds can be reached at salynd@aol.com.

In solidarity,

To those other political prisoners out there, keep on fighting,

“Karma” Grace #307722
PO Box 2000
Wartburg, TN 37887-2000

p.s. One of the C.O.’s name was C.O. Blalock. I haven’t been able to find out the other one’s name yet.

p.p.s. To all political prisoners/anarchists: I’m starting my own ABC chapter in prison in TN, and will continue when released December 2014. Any aid/information you can extend to me on how to do this, please do so, cause I don’t have a clue how to do it.

Illinois prisoners in Menard High Security Unit plan to begin hunger strike Jan. 15

by Alice and Staughton Lynd
<http://sfbayview.com/2014/illinois-prisoners-in-menard-high-security-unit-plan-to-begin-hunger-strike-jan-15/>

The following information is based on numerous letters from prisoners in the High Security Unit at Menard Correctional Center in Illinois written in December 2013. These prisoners expect to go on hunger strike on Jan. 15, 2014, due to their placement and retention in severe isolation, under inhumane living conditions, without notice, reasons or hearing. This will be a peaceful protest. Retaliation can be expected. These men ask for our support and action. And they ask us to spread the word.

After the Tamms Correctional Center was closed in January 2013, several High Security Units have been opened in other prisons throughout Illinois. The High Security Unit at Menard Correctional Center is one of several such units housing prisoners in administrative detention who were in Tamms or who have filed grievances or complaints and others who would not have met the criteria for transfer to Tamms.

The men were transferred to Menard and continue to be kept in the High Security Unit without any notice, reasons or hearing. Prisoners who were transferred without so much as a ticket are being forced to complete a nine month three phase program – originally Tamms’ stepdown program – to earn back privileges they did nothing to lose.

The Illinois Department of Corrections has been unable to locate any records responsive to a Freedom of Information Act request for any administrative directives

PRISON GROUPS UPDATES

F.A.M.- Still Standing Strong in the Struggle August 2013

It’s your brother in struggle, Yasin F. Rodriguez. Many know me as SAYSO from the RAM Squad (of hits “Ballers (Up in Here),” “Keep it Real,” and “Freaky Tonight” featuring Eve). I want to say thanks to everyone who has been showing their love and support, first and foremost. To update you all, our Philly offices are still closed pending full repairs. The soldier (and fellow comrade) that was shot by Phila. Police has pulled through and is no longer in a coma. Our love and salutes go out to him. I want to send love to all of the comrades who fell real young under PA’s lifer madness and now have a chance of getting back out to the free world. Continue to stand up brothers and sisters. Seriously.

My case has been re-opened due to newly-discovered evidence. We’ll see what happens. I didn’t fall before I turned 18, so it’s a lil harder for me. Though wrongfully arrested and convicted, my situation is very complicated and the “evils that be” have managed to prolong and pussy-foot their way around it. I won’t stop fighting though.

I want to address the many letters we have been getting at our F.A.M. Offices in general. Please be patient. Many letters have come in and we try to answer as they come in, but I must admit we are very backed up. For those who have written and didn’t include their name & address in the actual letter, please do not do that. We need you to write your name and address not only on the envelope, but also in the actual letter. Thank you. We shall get back to you all in due time. Remember we get many requests, questions, etc. We shall reply, be patient.

I want to welcome all of our newest members who have recently joined F.A.M. and thank everyone from other organizations who have showed their love and true support to us at F.A.M. We can make wonders together. For real. Anyone who has heard of us and would like to reach out, please feel free to do so. Stay true to yourselves and stay strong in the struggle, brothers and sisters. Never back down. Never. Continue to promote what is right. I salute you all and send my revolutionary strength and love.

To write me directly (not from prisons) write to:

Yasin F. Rodriguez HG3130
301 Institution Drive
Bellefonte, PA 16823

If you’re incarcerated and would like to contact me, write to:

F.A.M. c/o: Leyda Nelson, VP
Attn: Yasin F. Rodriguez
725 Branch Ave. #335
Providence, RI 02904

F.T.S. - Organizing Resistance December 2013

In the previous edition of PAN, we invited all like-minded prisoners to establish a F.T.S. chapter at their unit. F.T.S. is a collective of prisoners dedicated to resisting and systematically deconstructing the Prison Industrial Complex. "F.T.S." as a name is universal in use- like the word "Occupy" is for the Occupy Movement- but it actually doesn't stand for anything specific. Those three letters are appealing because they can form many potential meanings: Fight the System; Free the Slaves; Forced to Sign; Fuck the State. F.T.S. is a call for unity. It is a call for action! Through the prison grapevine I have heard that in the past six months at least five new F.T.S. chapters in Texas have begun organizing resistance. That's a great start - only 106 units in Texas to go. As time progresses, your social networks will grow and your ability to organize will strengthen. Here are a few ideas for you to utilize:

Each One Teach One - Organize groups on the law, anarchist and anti-authoritarian principles as well as resistive action. I encourage you all to study the essay "Civil Disobedience" by Henry David Thoreau. It should be fairly easy to get a freeworld friend/family to download it online. Civil Disobedience should be held in higher esteem than the Constitution or the Declaration of Independence- since it offers us true liberation and a means to deconstruct the very system that enslaves society. Don't just read it, but study it. Get a good dictionary and decipher exactly what Thoreau was explaining. This essay is sacred and its wisdom is well worth the time. A group study is important because if you can liberate the mind of one prisoner, it will naturally be passed forward.

I often explain to fellow prisoners that we do not have a "rights" problem. We have an enforcement problem. We either don't know what our rights are or how to enforce them. With this in mind we organized a very comprehensive "Texa\$ Grievance Guide," which is free from MIM Distributors, PO Box 40799, San Francisco, CA 94140. This guide explains how to file effective grievances in Texas and how to put outside pressure on the authorities to resolve an issue- including how to file criminal charges on guards. MIM Distributors also has a free petition on the grievance system.

The Union - There are a lot of talented and skillful jailhouse lawyers in prison, but there is a high level of competition among them. What could we do if we put our egos aside and formed a union, or a firm? We cannot effectively Fight The System without united and systematic litigation. It's as simple as that.

Underground Press (Forbidden Library Press) - We have a voice in PAN, but we also need to form a voice within the system itself and at the unit level. When authorities censor a document, they inevitably make it sacred- but there are still creative

COMMENTARY AND CALLS TO ACTION

Wartburg, TN

December 2013

"With great power comes great responsibility. Knowledge is power." I don't have any idea who made these statements, but how true they are. I have witnessed great power being abused, mostly by prison guards and prison administrators. I have all of the knowledge required to pursue civil litigation. I know how to properly file grievances, so that Administrative staff cannot negate it, due to a technicality. I have spread the word that if anyone wants me to file their grievances, write the paperwork necessary to get them into Federal Court, then I will do so gladly, for free. But everyone I meet in Tennessee's prisons fears retaliation, so no one wants to fight for their rights. This is my response.

Cowards, I.C.O.'s (Inmate Correctional Officers): how dare you bow your head in defeat. You! You cry, whine, complain, and bitch and moan. I'm sick of listening to your half-heartaches. Boo-hoo, cry me a river. If you're not willing to stand up, then shut up. They've given you nothing for your acquiesce of their brutal treatment of you.

July 1998, they took the cd players.

September 2001, they took all incoming packages from home.

2004 they took the pornography!

2007 they took the cigarettes.

When are you going to say "enough?" How much are they going to get away with taking, by holding parole over your heads? If I cheat you out of an .85 cent candy bar, you want to take my life and risk spending life in prison. But these C.O.'s tramp over your rights, take \$20 every month from you, spit in your face, and disrespect you, and yet you still play games and joke and laugh with them as though they're your long lost friends. I personally witnessed two C.O.'s take an inmate to a room in the unit and we, the whole pod, heard him getting the shit beat out of him. I heard an inmate say, "He's a child molester." Now, I have no love lost for baby-rapers, but by that same token, I'm partially innocent of my crime, who's to say that the justice system was incomplete the day he went to court. That's another thing I don't understand. If an inmate's charged with a "sex crime" everybody assumes he's guilty. But if a person is charged with a felony that's not a sex crime, then they are asked if they're innocent. All I'm saying is, we all (those serving time) wear the same clothes, and fall under the same tyrannical rule of Warden. Instead of victimizing those that are in the same position of torture that we are in, let us join together, once and for all, and take back the prison that used to be ours.

To get involved with CURE-ARM or BREAD & WATER please contact the following individuals:

Timothy J. Muise #W66927
MCI Shirley
PO Box 1218
Shirley, MA 01464-1218

Karen Schulman
Secretary
Bread & Water, Inc.
PO Box 84
Hopdale, MA 01747

For more information go to: <http://betweenthebars.org/blogs/101/>

We truly hope to see you at the next Occupy Prisons Rally as well as at our state house events!

Timothy J. Muise



ways to get a copy of the banned material. It should then enter the ranks of the Forbidden Library Press, which reproduces it (in extracts if necessary) and distributes it. Endeavor to put together an underground newspaper or zine for your unit. Not only will it help fellow prisoners be well informed and educated, but the social distribution networks will prove useful when you need to promote notices, petitions or calls for action.

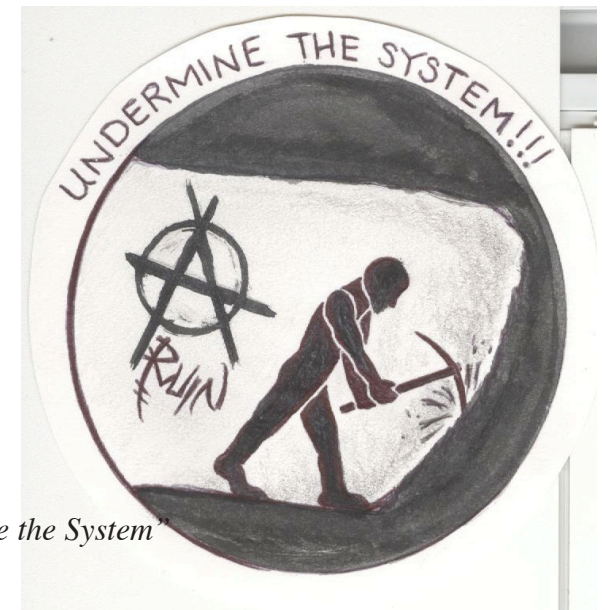
Take the Pledge – Find a way to cost the system at least a little extra \$ per day. Be creative and capture the uncapturable spirit of the twelve monkeys! Encourage others to take the pledge too.

Support your ABC – We have some very dedicated and proactive people on the outside who make our endeavors on the inside possible. Do everything you can to support them. Recently the Central Texas ABC shut down the paralegal side of its service because they were not getting the support they needed from us. And as a consequence, we have lost a very vital resource. The least we can do is organize a stamp drive or donate a few stamps every commissary to the cause.

As part of my personal dedication to fight mass incarceration, I vow to continue to offer different ways of organizing your F.T.S. chapter and resisting the system. I encourage every chapter to give a progress report to PAN. Finally, I'd like to remind everyone of the wise words of Thoreau in Civil Disobedience: "For it matters not how small the beginning may seem to be. What is once well done is done forever."

Revolution begins from within

~The Rue ~



Graphic: "Undermine the System"
By Ruin

Revolutionary Greetings:

“Clenched First Salute Compeers”

In the spirit of the panther and on these jewels love, honor, strength, price and respect, I write this missive to all comrades and tribesmen and sisters of the struggle to send this message. I am a N.A.B.P.P.- P.C. ‘rade in solidarity with other BP ‘rades on my plantation in Hangville, TX in the belly of the beast daring to struggle- daring to win against the Capitalist Imperialist Draconian system and our prison oppressors. I exhort every man and woman to unite in solidarity and stop opposing each other and bickering. “Divided we fall, united we stand,” remember? We cannot allow racism, individualism, commandism, egoism and glamorization of alien identities of our oppressors to destroy us. The rich elites and privy government officials care less if we or our families live or die. They just some time ago shot down a mother and child in cold blood in Washington D.C. amongst all else that has transpired. As a BP comrade I do all I can do communicate, educate, uplift the brothers on my plantation, but most are stuck on glamorizing ignorance and stay at one another’s throats. A lot of the compromising with the Administration and snitching is the new norm for a lot of so-called G’s and comrades. I will forever stand firm as a New Afrikan Black Panther irregardless of those in opposition to me. I commend all my comrades of the N.A.B.P.P.- PC, B.R.L.P., W.P.O., R.H.W.S., B.P.O.C., and plantation collectives in solidarity in a united front against our common foes. “Right on! to the real- Death to the fakers!”

I salute you ‘rades with a “clenched first salute” in ‘father love’ and honor. Comrade Che quoted “If you tremble with indignation at every injustice, then you are a Comrade of Mine.” “We cannot be sure of having something to live for unless we are willing to die for it.” “Whenever death may surprise us, let it be welcome if our battle cry has reached even one receptive ear and another hand reaches out to take up our arms.”

Comrade Optimus Prime, N.A.B.P.P.- SE B.P.P. PC Collective

Occupy Prisons rally: “A wonderful success” November 2013

On Saturday, September 28, 2013, members of the activist groups CURE-ARM, Inc., and BREAD & WATER, Inc., hosted the first ever “Occupy Prisons Rally” on the grounds of the Massachusetts Department of Corrections headquarters in Milford, Massachusetts. The event was a great success and has been touted as developed, organized, and brought into existence by prisoners and their families. CURE-ARM and BREAD & WATER both have prisoner steering committees who advise and instruct the groups as to the current and pressing issues which diminish public safety through failed corrections.

Approximately 24 people gathered at the site with posters, placards, and a bullhorn. Lively speeches were given on commutation reform, parole reform, compassionate release, and the failure of the Department of Corrections (or “Corruption”) to adhere to the rehabilitative mandate here in the commonwealth. Family members of prisoners who died unnecessarily here in the state prison system informed the gathering of the true social and financial need for a real and viable compassionate medical release vehicle. Others spoke of the politics behind the new Massachusetts Parole Board and how this phoney tough-on-crime facade is actually endangering the public. The attendees all had first-hand knowledge of the tragic failures of the \$500,000,000 per year corrections system, but knew that they must take their cues from the actual prisoner her/himself as they are educated experts on what does and does not work.

The fact that the guard’s union (MCOFU) has placed a stranglehold on the department in the form of outrageous and unwarranted staffing needs (the current system has five supervisors doing the job of what one used to do) was another major topic of the rally. The half billion dollar budget of the DOC produces recidivism rates clearly indicative of failure (the current rate is 47%, meaning one in two prisoners return to prison) even though they have the highest staffing ratio in the nation (there are 2.2 prisoners for every guard). The social costs of these failures are even more tragic.

CURE-ARM and BREAD & WATER are planning their next event at this time. They plan to go to the Massachusetts State House during hearings on the Medical Release measure proposed by Senator Patricia Jehlan (S.B. #1139) or possibly for Senator Ruth Balser’s measure calling for the reform of the parole board. The groups are also planning some acts of civil disobedience to get the message out there.

“[T]he prison mailroom supervisor at the prison I am incarcerated in (SCI Coal Township) reflexively denies all books by Black/Latino authors that provide a radical critique of prisons, as well as all publications that contain articles written by prisoners that critique prisons from an adversarial position. Every issue of the Human Rights Coalition newsletter “The Movement” has been denied by this institution, as well as informational brochures and flyers related to HRC’s advocacy on behalf of prisoners. It is not the information contained in these newsletters that the prison censor fears, because none of the material is threatening or inflammatory. What angers the censor and the prison administration is that prisoners are taking the initiative to challenge their imprisonment and conditions of confinement without apology! On the pages of these publications, prisoners are demonstrating that they possess a voice and are ensuring that their voice be heard.”

“This lawsuit challenges the ability of PA DOC officials to target political dissent and human rights defenders with arbitrary censorship,” said Bret Grote, an attorney with the Abolitionist Law Center representing the plaintiffs in the case. “The First Amendment protections at stake extend far beyond the confines of this particular case, and touch upon the daily lives of millions of people in this country who are in prison or who communicate with people in prison.”



THE ALMIGHTY PEN AND PAPER: GRIEVANCES AND LEGAL WORK

Licking, MO

October 2013

Chris C. Cowans, a leader of the Prison of Justice (POJ) of the Missouri DOC, told (wrote to) political officials in a letter the last few months in Missouri as a part of the POJ Overcrowding Observance that they should be more concerned about prison events that more and more directly affect the minds, lives, and futures of our juveniles.

C. C. Cowans #40998
225 West Hwy 32
Licking, MO 65542-9069
2A-112

Bridgeton, NJ

July 2013

To whom it may concern:

I have already written remedy forms out to the eye doctors. None of the forms were properly answered. When I made an appointment it was the same old excuse. I had made numerous complaints about my eye irritation and serious migraine headaches where I was subjected to take Tylenol and Motrin as a daily and morning and night medication. This was because of my poor eyesight. I’m barely able to see in my right eye which has black dots. Although these eyeglasses were only made for reading (20- 400+) impaired vision, this was not giving me any protection.

But Medical knows all about the serious medical needs and did not attempt to give me any eye treatment. After advising medical eye doctors of the seriousness, a statement was already made: “That I will be going blind if I do not receive the proper eye care and (or) protection.” Then I requested transition glasses that would have protected me from the bright lights.

Then on December 19th, 2012, I was transferred to another institution. I immediately placed a medical slip to see an eye doctor. The eye doctor made a statement:

“The staff needs to see your eyes. This state does not permit anyone to wear transition glasses since there is nothing wrong with your eyes.” This state has to provide a person, free of charge, with the necessary commodity which would be free outside the prison walls. I have the legal right to obtain them. Because of the circumstances, nothing whatsoever was done! I am suing, due to my eye affliction, internal infliction of emotional distress, suffering, debilitating indifference, and mistreatment. The medical staff did not even bother to make attempts and failed to ensure that I receive the eye care and any eye treatment.

Sincerely,

Darrell Hann #592792
215 S. Burlington Rd.
Bridgeton, NJ 08302

Abilene, TX September 2013

I am writing this article to inform prison activists about a recent lawsuit filed against Mental Health Management Services Inc. and Warden Larry Denney in the US District Court, Western District of Missouri, Huntley v. Crook, et al., 5:13-CV-06019-BCW for the neglect of prisoner Cartez Huntley’s serious mental health needs while assigned to long-term administrative segregation in housing unit one (the most restrictive housing unit at CRCC and Missouri’s version of the SHU). This lawsuit alleges that upon Cartez Huntley’s arrival at CRCC from NECC on May 3 2012, Mental Health Management personnel Dr. Ian Lynam, who was the chief of mental health at CRCC at that time (who was later terminated), and CRCC prison officials clearly knew about Mr. Huntley’s compulsion to self-mutilate by biting and eating his own flesh but failed to act and treat his serious mental health needs thereby causing injuries of at least 10 deep flesh wounds. This neglect went on for five months and has left Mr. Huntley’s hands and arms scarred for life. He was assigned to a camera-equipped cell for the entire five months that the neglect was going on and was not scheduled for any counseling sessions nor seen by a psychiatrist and was not prescribed any badly needed psychotropic medications until the threat of a lawsuit became real to the Mental Health Dept. and custody staff at CRCC through the grievance procedure where exhausting of administrative remedies was requested under the PLRA of 1997, and completed prior to the filing of this federal civil action. This 42 USC 1983 civil rights complaint is very important because solitary confinement has become the dumping site for the mentally ill all across America and once they end up deep in the bowels of these complex tombs they are often neglected like Mr. Huntley was with no one to stand up as their advocate and more often than not they want to be tough guys that taunt and provoke these poor guys into crashing out

SOLIDARITY: WORKING ACROSS THE BARS

Human Rights Coalition sues prison officials for censoring political dissent and human rights advocacy January 2014

The Human Rights Coalition (HRC), politicized prisoner Robert Saleem Holbrook, and College of Charleston Professor Kristi Brian brought a lawsuit yesterday against several employees of the State Correctional Institution (SCI) at Coal Township and the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections (PA DOC) for confiscation of mail sent to Holbrook, a co-founder of HRC currently held at SCI Coal Township.

“Today HRC is going on the offensive to fight back against prison censorship,” editor of The Movement and HRC-Philadelphia activist Patricia Vickers stated. “It is long overdue that prison officials are held to account for their attempts to silence those who speak out against this abusive system. The rights, health, and lives of our loved ones are at stake.”

The suit, Holbrook et al. v. Jellen et al., filed by the Abolitionist Law Center, details a series of confiscations of Holbrook’s mail since January 2012 that includes academic correspondence with a college professor and issues of The Movement, essays written by Angela Y. Davis and James Baldwin, a newsletter published by HRC which focuses on prison abuse, solitary confinement, and ways that prisoners’ family members can come together to challenge human rights abuses and injustice in the criminal legal system.

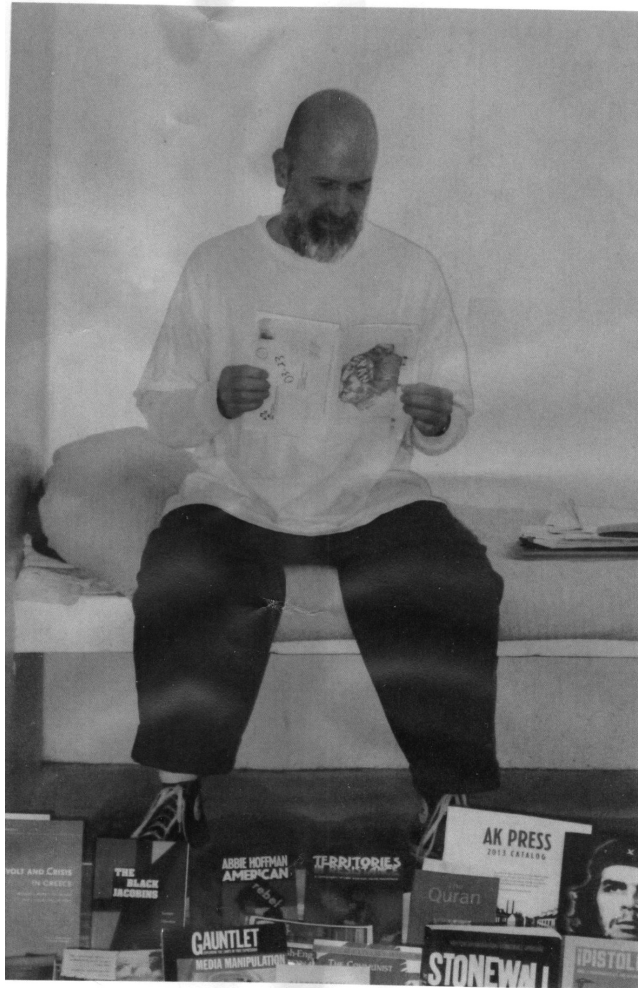
The content of the materials censored by SCI Coal Township and Central Office of officials touch on the most vital issues of the operation of the prison system in Pennsylvania: juveniles sentenced to die in prison, deaths in solitary confinement, repression of human rights defenders inside prisons, advocacy efforts by families of prisoners, and the pervasive racism that defines the criminal legal system in Pennsylvania and the U.S. In this context, freedom of thought, speech, and association carry life or death consequences.

Plaintiff Robert Saleem Holbrook, a 39-year-old prisoner who is serving a sentence of life-without-parole for a conviction imposed when he was 16-years-old, wrote about prison censorship in an article published in October 2012, “Censorship on the Prison Plantation: Extinguishing Dissent”:

Who is responsible?

A proud law man (who does not respect the actual law) named Michael Waterworth is solely responsible for implementing the draconian ban on books. He is also responsible for allowing guards to read attorney-client privileged mail, and all other abuses taking place. He lied to Tyler & Kevin that he would undo the book ban if they were patient, placating them long enough for the media attention to die down, at which point he reneged on his promise.

Update, November 1st: After 8 days without food, the book ban was lifted and Kevin ended his hunger strike.



*“Reading PAN”
Anonymous Rebel*

for their amusement. This is sad and ain’t cool at all! Remember these mentally ill prisoners are lost in a terrible nightmare that a normal man has trouble navigating. I am the prison litigator who helped Cartez obtain the mental health treatment and medications he very badly needed and put together his lawsuit for him (for which I’m sure to be retaliated against by CRCC prison officials) which alleges violations of his 8th and 14th amendment rights and ADA and RA violations as well as Missouri state constitutional rights violations.

I urge all brothers in solidarity who witness the abuse or neglect of the mentally ill to step in and lend that fellow prisoner a hand to stop the wrongs being committed against him or her. Coach them through the grievance system because, let’s face it, the man ain’t gonna do it. And look at how hard it is for you or I to complete a formal complaint start to finish. They need our help, not our mockery. Many of these mentally ill prisoners being abused and neglected are veterans who fought our wars to keep America free and old glory flying in the wind.

Only in solidarity can we fight and win against huge HMO corporations like Mental Health Management Services, Inc. and Corizon, Inc.

In solidarity we fight!

Troy L. Fenton 517163
1115 E. Pence Rd. CRCC
Cameron, MO 64429

Portage, WI

December 2013

Revolutionary greetings,

Hello to all. For a lot of reasons I was not able to send in my last update, mostly because of fighting back to the injustice. People do not like me because of what other people say. The inmates and the DOC staff’s lies are all they tell to keep the truth from being told. We are all the same and I don’t like fighting between us, but at times I have to because they do not know respect.

As I have shown by my work and writings, I do not take anything and that is why I am back in Max Seg, mostly retaliation by staff, but also because I’m fighting back. They hurt me and I had to protect myself against being hurt so I went off. I got another 6 months in because of the one battery and for breaking things in the DOC.

I also see that the writing of papers and complaints against the DOC are working because A.) a lot of my mail is being stopped from going out or they send it out but

make sure it gets back, and B). I was able back in May 2013 to get a step 2 seg and received a lot of my mail I never received so I could not respond and missed legal deadlines and was not able to get outside support.

I want to say I support 100% Brian Lee Row's work and now have taken part in the legal work as he and others have. The WI DOC is now going to Keefe Commissary Network. We need to do everything in our power to stop this because we and our families are the only ones being hurt. They rob the poor to make the rich richer. It's time to take back. Be happy to not have anything that supports injustice. I have no money and want none because it only helps to hurt another. I take everything from the DOC to make them spend as much money as I can. In every way we can make them spend, make them spend. My legal work has started. It's time to start yours.

What makes me happy is to feel pain. It tells me I'm alive. I suffer from PTSD because of the life that I have lived but I never would change one thing. I pray that just because someone does not like someone because of lies and trying to get us to fight each other that we will put that off and pick up our pens of justice and fight back in any way we can or know how. Let this new year bring small steps of justice that in the end will become bigger and bigger. We are not each other's adversary. The DOC is. As words spoken long ago, I am the master of my fate, the captain of my soul.

Animal rights activist,

Manuel C. Salas 504212
CCI
PO Box 900
Portage, WI 53901

p.s. The work on my vegan food is still ongoing and more updates next time

Jailed animal rights activist goes on hunger strike in Illinois November 2013

from <http://www.animalliberationfrontline.com/jailed-animal-rights-activist-goes-on-hunger-strike-in-illinois/>

Kevin Olliff is on hunger strike until the Woodford County Jail book ban is reversed.

Background: Tyler Lang and Kevin Olliff are two Los Angeles animal rights activists who were arrested in rural Illinois for "possession of burglary tools." After a traffic stop in which they refused consent to a police search, their car was searched anyway. Inside, police allege they found bolt cutters, wire cutters, muriatic acid, ski masks, and cammo clothing.

Police believe these items were "burglary tools" intended to be used in a crime, and arrested Kevin and Tyler. The two are held on felony charges which carry up to three years in prison. They have remained in jail since their arrest on August 14th.

It has been over 6 weeks since Michael Waterworth banned all books from entering the Woodford County Jail. The psychological toll of life in a cell without any way to pass the time has been nearly insufferable, as they are forced to waste away without even the most basic form of mental stimulation. On October 24th, 2013, Kevin announced that he is prepared to go without food until the book ban is lifted. The hunger strike is effective as of midnight, Wednesday night.

Why did the jail ban books?

The ban was instituted hours after Tyler & Kevin's book wish list was posted online. The book ban was not the result of any rule violation or taken as a practical measure, and appears to be purely punitive in response to the attention Kevin & Tyler have received.

The jail's only attempt at an explanation has been to say the jail library is full. This transparent attempt to distract from the issue does not even address the book ban, in which books are no longer allowed to be mailed in directly to prisoners. The capacity of the library is not at issue.

How lawless is Michael Waterworth and his jail?

They have banned books.

They admit they read attorney-client privileged mail between prisoners and their lawyers.

They steal outgoing mail which documents prisoner abuse.

They lie to the media and concerned people who call the jail.

Indiana prisoners refusing lunches: Call for solidarity January 2014

From comrades in Indiana:

On Monday, January 13th, Indiana prisoners being detained in Westville Correctional Facility began to refuse the nutritionally deficient, unappetizing cold sack lunches they have been forced to endure over the past several months and have issued a call for solidarity. A mass call-in is being planned to put pressure on IDOC officials and Aramark Correctional Services to reinstitute hot lunch trays.

Why is this happening?

According to “official” sources, the switch to sack lunches was a 90-day test program launched in response to a prisoner’s request to increase recreation and shower time. Overlooking the absurd proposition that a prison would change its food policy based on a prisoner request for extended recreation time, the fact is that since the conversion to sack lunches, recreation and shower time have not increased, and the 90-day trial period has long since passed.

The truth is more likely to be found in the bottom line and Aramark’s business history. In 2005, Aramark Correctional Services (ACS) signed a quarter billion dollar, ten year contract with the Indiana Department of Corrections to provide meals for inmates. Since then, Indiana DOC has saved more than \$11 million a year, spending approximately \$1.19 per meal/per prisoner. In other states these savings have been achieved as a result of skimping on food portions and quality. In Florida, an audit of ACS found the company was cutting costs/increasing profits by cutting portions on meals. In Kentucky, similar skimping on portions coupled with a decrease in the quality of food led to food riots in 2009. During the investigation that followed, Aramark refused to provide Kentucky auditors with access to its records, making a claim to their proprietary rights and confidentiality.

Here in Indiana, prisoners are reporting a reduction in portions in everything from peanut butter portions to chicken patties, in the discontinuation of fresh fruit in disciplinary units, and in the replacement of meat with pasta covered in “liquid gravy” or chili composed of “pink slime.” To complicate matters, and make accountability more difficult, different Indiana prisons, and different areas within those prisons, are all receiving different portions and meals. This is Aramark’s mark of business as usual. Let’s let them know we are watching.

Charleston, MO

July 2013

I am a Russian Jew from Brooklyn, New York. I teach and mentor prisoners to fight the system and teach them how to start a non-profit organization and other things. I also send hundreds of letters out each year to government agencies, religious organizations, and non-profit organizations and tell them all the problems and issues that affect prisoners and prisoners’ families.

The following is a list of people and organizations to which I sent letters last month. I work with a lot of people both inside and out of prison. I also send letters to the media:

Kathleen Sebelius (D-KS), Eric H. Holder Jr. (D-NY), Missouri Legislators: Jacob Hummel (D- Minority Floor Leader), Jason Holsman (D); Missouri Representatives: Mike Colona (D- St. Louis), Michele Kratky (D- St. Louis), Genise Montecillo (D- St. Louis), Jay Barnes (R- Jefferson City), FBI Director James Comey, National League of Cities, National Governors’ Association, National District Attorneys Association, National Conference of State Legislators, National Center for State Courts, National Association of Attorneys General, Council of State Governments, American Federation of Police and Concerned Citizens, Physicians for Social Responsibility, Physicians for Human Rights, Criminal Politics Magazine, Outreach International, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, Pentecostal World Fellowship, Church Women United, Catholic Charities USA, Catholic Relief Services, US Conference of Catholic Bishops, National of Islam, and many more.

I depend on donations from family, friends, prisoners, and prisoners’ families so I can buy stamps, copy cards, office supplies, and phone time to continue my work.

Thank you,

Robert S. Tabak 506777
Southeast Correctional Center 5C-117
300 East Pedro Simmons Dr.
Charleston, MO 63839

DIRECT ACTION/NON-COMPLIANCE

Days of teargas, blood + vomit: how prisoners overwhelmed fascist forces in the July 4th rebellion at ManCI. July 2013

A participant's account from inside the special manglement unit:
(Edited for length. Full article available at www.SeanSwain.org)

Gandhi would not approve. It's been a rough-and-tumble bucket-o-blood back here in the Special Manglement Unit of Mansfield Correctional Institution. Blackjack's missing three teeth and my stomach injuries had me puking for a time. This is the whole story, and most of it is true.

July 4 began with emergency lockdown, the fascists all hopped up on adrenaline, coffee, and the news of the escape that happened the previous night. Turns out, a prisoner escaped the old-fashioned way. He leaned a steel ladder against the fence and left. But as with any other situation where popular forces strike a successful blow against the fuckweasel control system, those of us still locked in the shoebox take the full brunt of it. Breakfast was shit and there was no recreation. So even before Warden Terry Tibbals arrived at his office, all hell had already broke loose. Forty steel doors banging, busted sprinkler heads pounding thousands of gallons of rusty water down the stairs.

So, if you've been locked in the shoebox for any length of time, you know what's coming. A captain or a major will soon be on-station to announce his own importance, only to find every fucking cell-door window blocked and barricaded, whereupon he will slosh with wet socks and shoes back to an office to call in the Extraction Team- a crew of genetic oddities whose whole reason to exist is to crush human skulls and with reckless abandon, cell-to-cell, breaking bones and spirits.

In SMU4B, Blackjack and I occupied the cell closest to the entrance so by dumb luck and a twist of fate, we were the front line of the very first battle. We took a quick inventory and came up with an impromptu battle plan. They might kill us, but they were going to know we were here.

We know how it goes down. The Extraction Team opens the food slot and sprays an industrial sized can of outdoor-use-only pepper spray into the cell, a space the size of a bathroom. Then, they'd key the door and bullrush in, a phalanx behind riot shields and helmets, pounding ahead and crushing anything organic in their way. At least seven of them, taming, breaking, punishing.

make it clear the guards shouldn't bother you or put that many restrictions on your daily living in the detention center. ICE gives a pamphlet to every detainee that explains what you have access to and what your rights are. You're supposed to have access to the computers, to the law library, to gaming boards. But once you go in there, they treat you just like the inmates next door. It's very restrictive. After I was in there for a while, when they gave me a brochure, and I saw what was going on, I talked with a couple of inmates and said "We have to do something about this because we are being mistreated. We have to ask for what we're entitled to."

I became a worker there. I would serve the food, clean the shower stalls, clean the bathroom. I told the guys, "We have to act, we're not going to clean the bathroom until they give us what we're entitled to, until we see an immigration judge." You are at risk for some serious punitive action if you want to organize in there. They can send you to solitary confinement. You can get put in lockdown, where you only get out for meals, not rec time.

Another time I told all the workers we're gonna go on strike. When the trays come to serve the food, I told all the workers we're not gonna serve it. One of the CO's caught wind of this and told me "I wish when the trays come no one was there to serve it, I'd never let you see the light again." So you are always at risk when you're organizing in there. But I tried to organize the guys as a union, instead of one person voicing their concerns we act as a union.

I started meeting some of the guys from the outside who come in to talk with us, and they connected us with outside organizations. I heard after I left there was a hunger strike organized. People got into major trouble for that. Some were shipped to other facilities, others we're sent to solidarity confinement for over 30 days. Organizing there is dangerous and you have to be prepared for the risk that comes with it.

PAN: Other than organizing strikes, what other types of actions did you take?

There's a grievance form in there to file complaints against the medical staff, a correctional officer, or the facility altogether, and it goes to the administration of the whole South Bay prison, not just the ICE section. What I would do is help everyone in the unit fill out the forms, help the guys who couldn't write in English. A lot of the guys aren't too proficient in writing in English or speaking it, so what I would do is grab like seventy grievance forms for the seventy guys on the unit.

I'd written a couple of grievances before and noticed they were never addressed. So I figured if I have every single one of the guys on the floor, even if I take my time to write out each grievance myself, and just have them sign them with their name and ID, we'd have 70 grievances about the same issue, it would be a lot more effective. I didn't mind writing them all. If I had one thing in there it was time. I'd put all 70 grievances in and the superintendent would get all these grievances about the same thing. And usually if we had all 70 signatures, something would be done about it.

Immigrant detainees struggle for rights at South Bay

January 2014

By Jake Carman

On October 3rd, 2013, approximately 40 detainees at the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention center at Suffolk County House of Corrections (South Bay) in South Boston launched a hunger strike over poor health conditions, among other issues. Organizers in the ICE section, which holds around 200 immigrants, delivered a letter to the prison administration demanding officials “improve food safety,[...]equalize access to programs and services,[...]and support visitation rights.” Detainees then launched a public campaign on September 26, with dozens of supporters rallying outside the prison, and threatened a hunger strike. Following the demand delivery, prison officials held a whole-unit meeting, promising to address the prisoners’ grievances. Prison administration, however, changed little, spurring detainees at all three ICE units in South Bay to hunger strike for three days.

According to an outside supporter working with the detainees in their struggle, “The formidable power and solidarity built by the united detainees at South Bay has both forced ICE to address many demands and further exposed the inhumane nature of immigration enforcement in the US. Following the hunger strike, at least two detainees were released from detention and at least one released from solitary confinement. Some improvements in sanitary conditions have occurred and conversations for further progress are taking place. Meanwhile, though, detainees continue to face retaliation and insufficient access to support, as well as continued sanitary issues.”

In recent years, prisoners at South Bay have complained about sanitation, over crowding, and other issues. Many detainees in the ICE section have ulcers from *H. pylori* bacterium infections, caused by poor sanitation. In 2010, women prisoners filed grievances and asked supporters to host a phone blitz to prison officials after South Bay served inmates food contaminated with maggots and rat feces, and refused to address massive flooding of inmates’ cells.

The following is an interview with an anonymous Haitian worker and father, currently unemployed and living in Boston, who was detained in the ICE detention section of South Bay in the months before the hunger strike:

PAN: *What is it like to organize at the detention center?*

We were trying to organize people to claim certain things that are promised to us. When you are detained by immigration, ICE makes it clear that there’s no legal charges against you, and they’re not taking any punitive actions against you, because you haven’t been sentenced. You’re not an inmate, you’re just being detained. They

The fascists had the latest technology for violence and brutality. We had a plastic bag, styrofoam cups, shampoo, toothpaste, sheets, blankets, a broom, socks, soap, two lunch trays, a razor blade and a stapler. We quickly concluded that the stapler really proved quite irrelevant in a violent struggle for liberation against the forces of fuckweaselry. But all that other shit could kick a fucking dent in their machinery.

THE EPIC MOTHERFUCKING STAND-OFF TO END ALL STAND-OFFS

Unable to see into the cell because the window was blocked, the fascists opened the food slot, only to find a bed sheet hanging in front of the door. On top of that, a blanket was wedged in the 4 inch frame of the outside window, making the cell pitch dark. The lead fuckweasel reached his hand into the food slot to grab the sheet and yank it down, only to take a bar of soap in a sock across the knuckles.

Angered, they went straight to the pepper-spray, letting loose with about a gallon of it. What they didn’t know is that we used a whole tube of toothpaste to adhere a plastic bag over the food slot. That bag caught the pepper spray and when I hit that bag with the soap-in-a-sock, it coughed its contents right back at the fuckweasels who unleashed it. That sent them running and sprawling into the cascading toilet water.

They formed up, fueled on rage and pain, and keyed the door. It swung open and they came in behind the shield. They still could not see because the sheet wasn’t fastened to the door. We hung the sheet from a curtain rod we created out of styrofoam cups, like 50 of them, stacked and then wedged into the door frame. So when they came marching into the battle dome, they came in blind with the sheet draped in front of their faces.

They didn’t see the shampoo on the floor or the plastic cup lids floating in the shampoo. The shield-man’s jackboots slid on the cup lids and went hydro-planing forward, shoved from behind by the six-man phalanx that followed. Keep in mind, there’s a steel bunkbed 3 feet in from the door and it’s bolted down, creating a bottle-neck, where the goons must come in single-file across shampoo and cup lids sliding under their feet, as they follow a blinded shield-man into a dark room, a sheet hanging in his face.

The shield-man didn’t see me in the shower, pulling the trip line tight. It caught his foot and he fell forward, his fuckweasel friends piling up behind him. Blackjack and I both began yelling, “I got him!” and “Stop resisting!” giving the impression that the shield-man hadn’t fallen, but had instead tackled one of us.

I let go of the trip line and pulled the strip of sheet we had cut with the razor blade to hook into the sprinkler. I yanked it hard, unleashing thousands of gallons of black gunk fire suppressant pushed by tens of thousands of gallons of water. It was cold and disorienting and blinding, immediately blasting the pile of fuckweasels like a fire-hose from the ceiling.

That was Blackjack’s cue. They hadn’t seen him under the mattress on the top bunk. He sprang to his feet, and with his half of the broomstick secured to his wrist, he

leaped down onto the fuckweasel heap, swinging like a madman. From the opposite side, I rushed into the maelstrom with my half of the broomstick tied to my wrist, and the soap-in-a-sock in my other hand screaming and snarling like a savage. In no time, we were behind the bewildered pile of drenched muscle and heavy equipment, and we bolted for the door.

If we got through the open cell door and out into the block, we faced one guard with a cell phone taking video and another guard with a handful of keys. Keys: the great equalizer. We had two primitive clubs in our fists, rags wrapped round our faces, and as many as 78 other comrades trapped behind steel doors – doors that could be opened with those keys. We only had to get out of the cell and lock the extraction team inside. But, as we reached the door, the fuckweasels outside the cell dropped everything and threw themselves against the closing door. Blackjack got his club wedged in to keep it from closing as he struggled against the door, I swung on the extraction team trying to regain their feet, and a helmet flew against the wall. Unfortunately, there was no head inside it.

Blackjack thrust against the door and it gave, knocking down the guards on the outside, and we tumbled out of the cell and into the block. We crawled forward in the ice-cold water and gunk, clawing at the fallen guards, but before we gained purchase, the extraction team had us by the legs, dragging us back into the containment of the cell. Strange, but they didn't beat us to death. Sure, they got their random kicks and punches in as they held us down and confiscated our weapons, but then they bolted, leaving us sprawled, broken and bloody in a flood of toilet water on the concrete floor.

It took a long time for the fascists to regain control of SMU 4, as they faced inspired and courageous resistance in every fucking cell. The extraction team left the unit at the end of their shift dispirited and haunted by their experience.

HELLA HELLA OCCUPY

Four days later, we remained in a burned out shell of a cell, paint peeled from the walls, chunks of concrete missing out of the ceiling. Blackjack and I were cuffed and escorted out to the outdoor recreation cage. Beginning at 6:30 am, we announced to the fuckweasel establishment that we were occupying the recreation cage and not giving it back until our demands were met. Inside the block, the rest of the SMU4 prisoners were again off the chain, rattling doors and flooding the unit. By dinner, they sent in a negotiator to use his "interpersonal communication" training to talk us out of the cage. When that failed, they called the extraction team... who simply did not show up.

Officer Miller took a cell phone video of our demands. When told all demands would be met, we surrendered, only to be dragged, handcuffed, back to our burned-out cave to find our food in the toilet and most of our property destroyed. Miller and Bradshaw had taken all of our soap, toilet paper and pens.

Officer Miller threatened to put his dick and balls in our food, so, as a natural consequence, Blackjack and I went without food the entire day, right along with the heroes of Pelican Bay and the thousands of hunger strikers across the country and around the world. Miller's threats sparked a night of mayhem, leading the Gestapo High Command to conclude that Blackjack and I are a dangerous influence, and they moved us out of that stagnant cave in SMU 4 to the veritable zombie suburbs of SMU2.

Though we've been put out to pasture, the situation has greatly improved. Our food portions are back to standard; the laundry service has resumed; the cells are clean and dry, without toilet water pouring from the ceiling; and Blackjack and I are now in a cell where we can sleep without steel doors 3 feet away, banging us awake every ½ hour.

Some kind of disciplinary action was taken against us, but we don't know what it was since we refuse to answer any more conduct reports. When the officer who came to shackle us heard we refused to go, he asked, "Are we gonna have to do this the hard way?" We responded, "You better go ask the extraction team." He left, never returned.

So, there's a lesson to derive from all this: the only effective answer to state terror in any form is equal and opposite revolutionary violence. Plain and simple. It's the only thing the fascist fuckweasels understand. All I'm saying is, if we can nearly defeat the hyper-fascist forces inside the State's mind-fuck control unit by employing styrofoam cups, a tube of toothpaste, and a broken broomstick, what hope exists for the capitalist pigs and their fuckweasel enforcers? If only a small fraction of so-called anarchists, revolutionaries, freedom-fighters, libertarians, tea-partiers or Occupy supporters got serious for a moment, all the world's officer Millers would have to remove their balls from our instant potatoes and run naked, screaming for their miserable and worthless lives, chased by angry hordes carrying pitchforks and torches, demanding a reckoning.

We don't need Gandhi's approval. This is reality, however it is we feel about it. We need Gandhi to pass that tube of toothpaste and get that lunch tray strapped to his arm. This is how you take back the future.

Brave new motherfucking world, Mohandas. Brave new motherfucking world.

Freedom or Death,

Sean Swain
Anarchist Prisoner of War
Mansfield Corruptional Institution
Super Mind-fuck Unit 2